

**THREE DIMENSIONAL FRAMEWORK
FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS**

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A solution advisor tool for designing an information technology (IT) solution,
5 comprising: (1) a knowledge management system for generating and storing information in a
hierarchical format, wherein the knowledge management system includes: (a) a first knowledge
base of characteristics; (b) a second knowledge base that manages relationship information
regarding the interactions of characteristics and defines all valid characteristic combinations,
10 wherein each valid characteristic combination forms a network unit; (c) a third knowledge base
that manages information regarding the interconnectability of network units, wherein a valid
combination of network units comprises a configuration; and (d) a fourth knowledge base that
manages information regarding sets of possible configurations that can fulfill a predetermined
function, wherein each set comprises a cloud; and (2) a design interface system for generating the
IT solution.